

REMARKS

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants would like to acknowledge and thank Examiner Marcelo for his indication that claims 29-39, 57-69, 76-79, and 82 are allowed over the art of record.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-28, 40-56, 70-75, 80 and 81 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Walker (British Patent no. 1,327,954). The Office Action asserts that Walker discloses a chassis 12 and a wiper blade 5. The rejection of the claims is respectfully traversed, as Walker does not disclose each and every element of the claims.

Independent Claims 1, 7, 23, and 40, each recite a wiper blade. Applicants disclose a wiper blade that may be made out of any flexible material, such as thermoplastic elastomers, foam, sponge, plastic or rubber having a shore A durometer hardness value ranging about 0 to 80, from about 15 to about 70 and preferably from about 30 to about 60. (Page 29, lines 12-15). The wiper blade can help to hold the tail of the wipe in place and thus keep the tail from falling back through the gap and into the cartridge. (Page 29, lines 24-26).

The reference provided by the Examiner does not teach or disclose anything that would be equivalent to the wiper blade of the present claims. The Examiner is apparently equating the cutting edge 5 of Walker with the wiper blade claimed in the present application. Walker does not define cutting edge 5. Walker, however does disclose that serrated cutting edge 25 is used for tearing off a piece of the sheet material which has been withdrawn through the dispensing slot. (Page 4, lines 10-13). Accordingly, claims 1-28 and 40-56 are not anticipated by Walker as the reference does not disclose each and every element of the claimed apparatus.

In addition to Walker's failure to teach or suggest a wiper blade, as claimed by the current application, claims 1, 7, and 40 each recite a chassis. Applicants disclose,

for example, a chassis comprising mounting elements used to mount the wiper assembly to the cover of the dispenser. In one embodiment of the invention, the chassis comprises a handle and a plurality of openings for receiving the wiper blade. (Page 31, lines 3-4 and 15-18). As part of the wiper blade assembly, the chassis may be mounted to the dispenser such that the assembly can be removed for replacement, cleaning, and/or for adjustment of the dispensing characteristics of the dispenser. (Page 31, lines 21-24).

The Examiner cites the container 12, as illustrated by FIGS. 3 and 4 of Walker, as being equivalent to the chassis claimed by the current application. Walker discloses a container 12 that includes a longitudinal slot through which a sheet may be withdrawn. (Page 3, lines 109-113). The container 12 of Walker is, if anything, the dispenser, not the chassis used to mount the wiper blade to the dispenser. Accordingly, claims 1-28 and 40-56 are not anticipated by Walker as the reference does not disclose each and every element of the claimed apparatus.

Applicants would like to kindly point out that the Examiner has failed to correlate any of the elements of Walker with the recitals as set forth in claims 70, 80, and 81. Independent claims 70, 80, and 81 do not recite either a wiper blade or a chassis. Therefore, the Examiner has failed to provide Applicants with a reference that teaches or discloses each and every element of these claims. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, all of the grounds raised in the present Office Action for rejecting the application are believed to be overcome or rendered moot based on the remarks above. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently presented claims are in form for allowance, and such action is requested in due course. Should the Examiner feel a discussion would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,


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